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# CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

**24-HOUR REPORT** 

8 APRIL 2021

## (U) CALIFORNIA

## (U) Auburn - Placer County Arrests for Illegal Gun Possession Nearly Double In Past Year

(U) Placer County deputies have encountered almost double the amount of people illegally armed with guns in the past year, as violence rises amid the coronavirus pandemic nationwide. The Placer County Sheriff's Office said that between January 2019 and March 2020, 48 people were arrested on gun possession charges; but between January 2020 and March 2021, that number nearly doubled to 90 arrests. A recent study from the National Commission on COVID-19 and Criminal Justice showed that during 2020, many major US cities saw surges in homicides and gun assaults. Using data from 34 cities, the commission found that while most property crimes went down significantly, homicides were up by 30% compared to 2019 and gun assaults were up by 8%. The Sacramento area has seen a similar upward trend in recent months. Aggravated assaults in Elk Grove, Roseville and Sacramento during the first six months of 2020 rose by 23%, and Sacramento police officials said the increase in shootings may have been connected with a surge in gang activity.

SOURCE: 7 April 2021, Sacramento Bee

## (U) Oakland – Authorities Arrest Seven Alleged Gang Members Charged in Multiple Shootings

(U) Police arrested seven alleged members of an East Oakland gang on charges that they traveled to Antioch to commit multiple shootings over the past several months, including one that resulted in the death of a 20-year-old man. The seven men were charged with offenses that include murder, conspiracy to commit murder, attempted murder and assault, court records show. All seven are in custody at a Contra Costa County jail, either on \$5 million bail or on no-bail holds. All seven defendants are allegedly connected to ENT, a large gang with multiple subsets that is based in East Oakland.

SOURCE: 7 April 2021, San Jose Mercury News

# (U) NATIONAL

## (U) District of Columbia – Biden Administration Reported to Announce New Gun Laws

(U) Washington – President Joe Biden today will unveil his administration's first steps to curb gun violence, including a plan to reduce the proliferation of "ghost guns," after a slew of mass shootings have put pressure on him to act. Biden will announce that the Justice Department intends to issue a proposed rule within 30 days to help reduce the increasing prevalence of untraceable, self-assembled "ghost guns," a White House official told reporters. The details of the rule were not immediately clear. SOURCE: 7 April 2021, Reuters

# (U) Oregon – Coast Guard Intercepts \$41 Million In Cocaine During Pacific Ocean Mission

(U) Astoria – The US Coast Guard Cutter Alert returned home to Astoria following a 63-day counter-drug patrol in the Eastern Pacific Ocean. Working in conjunction with different Coast Guard and Mexican law enforcement agencies, Alert's crew disrupted more than 2,100 pounds of cocaine, valued at over \$41 million wholesale, from entering the United States. The cutter and crew patrolled international waters

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off the coast of Mexico and the US-Mexico Maritime Boundary Line, enforcing international laws and treaties throughout their deployment and disrupting the flow of illegal narcotics and migrant smuggling. SOURCE: 7 April 2021, KTVZ

#### (U) INTERNATIONAL

## (U) Australia - Two Men Arrested in Far-Right Raids

(U) Adelaide – South Australian police have arrested a man for possessing an improvised explosive device while a second has been charged with the possession of extremist material during a series of raids across Adelaide targeting members of the far-right. A police spokesperson said the searches were part of an investigation related to "people associated with ideologically motivated violent extremism." The spokesperson confirmed the raids had led to two arrests, including a 32-year-old man from Munno Para in Adelaide's outer suburbs.

SOURCE: 7 April 2021, The Guardian

## (U) France – Suspect Arrested Over Easter Linked to Church Plot

(U) Beziers – French anti-terrorism investigators said an 18-year-old woman arrested over the Easter weekend was suspected of planning an attack on a church. New details have emerged about the woman, who was living in a housing project in Beziers, in southern France, and is suspected of plotting an attack targeting nearby Montpellier over Easter. Anti-terrorism officials said that during a search of her home they found a photo of the schoolteacher beheaded by a radical Islamist in October. Officials also said that bomb-making materials were found in the apartment, as well as photos of "armed jihadists," a diagram of a nearby church and handwritten notes referring to the Nazis and ISIS. SOURCE: 8 April 2021, The Washington Post

## (U) Mexico – Gulf Cartel Leader Arrested

(U) Nuevo Leon – A drug cartel member listed on Customs and Border Protection's (CBP) "Se Busca Informacion" initiative was arrested in Nuevo Leon on Tuesday. Evaristo Cruz Sanchez was arrested in the Mexican state of Nuevo Leon on Tuesday by Mexican officials. According to CBP, Cruz Sanchez, aka Vaquero, is a top Gulf Cartel leader and operational commander in Matamoros. The "Se Busca Informacion" initiative targets the ten drug cartel members most wanted by the US Border Patrol and the Government of Tamaulipas.

SOURCE: 7 April 2021, Valley Central.com

## (U) Syria – ISIS Members Kidnap 19 People During Attack

(U) Al-Sa'an – Militants affiliated with ISIS kidnapped at least 19 people, mostly civilians, near a town in central Syria, state media and a monitor group said. The abduction occurred after a group of ISIS fighters carried out a "surprise attack" against Syrian government forces near the town of al-Sa'an in Syria's central province of Hama. At least 11 civilians were among those kidnapped by ISIS militants. The other eight were reportedly Syrian government soldiers.

SOURCE: 6 April 2021, VOA

- (U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.
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